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BILLING CODE: 5001-06

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Charter Renewal of Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Renewal of Federal Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense (DoD) is publishing this notice to announce that it is renewing the charter for the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program Scientific Advisory Board ("the Board").

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Freeman, Advisory Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, 703-692-5952.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This committee's charter is being renewed pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2904 and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended) and 41 CFR 102-3.50(d). The charter and contact information for the Board's Designated Federal Officer (DFO) can be obtained at http://www.facadatabase.gov/.

Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2904(e), the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program Council ("the Council") shall refer to the Board, and the Board shall review, each proposed research project including its estimated cost, for research in and development of technologies related to environmental activities in excess of \$1,000,000. The Council, pursuant to its responsibilities under 10 U.S.C. 2902(d)(1) and in an effort to enhance the Board's review

process, has lowered the dollar threshold for referral by the Council to the Board to any proposed research project in excess of \$900,000. The Board shall make any recommendations to the Council that the Board considers appropriate regarding such project or proposal. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2904(a), the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall jointly appoint not less than six and not more than 14 members. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2904(b), the Board membership shall be composed of the following: (a) Permanent members of the Board are the Science Advisor to the President and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or their respective designees; and (b) Non-permanent members of the Board shall be appointed from among persons eminent in the fields of basic sciences, engineering, ocean and environmental sciences, education, research management, international and security affairs, health physics, health sciences, or social sciences, with due regard given to the equitable representation of scientists and engineers who are women or who represent minority groups. One such member of the Board shall be a representative of environmental public interest groups, and one such member shall be a representative of the interests of State governments. Board members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal officers or employees are appointed as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109 to serve as special government employee members. Board members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal officers or employees are appointed pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.130(a) to serve as regular government employee members. Each member is appointed to provide advice on behalf of the Government on the basis of their best judgment without representing any particular point of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest. Except for reimbursement of official Board-related travel and per diem, members serve without compensation. The DoD, as necessary and

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consistent with the Board's mission and DoD policies and procedures, may establish

subcommittees, task forces, or working groups to support the Board, and all subcommittees must

operate under the provisions of FACA and the Government in the Sunshine Act. Subcommittees

will not work independently of the Board and must report all recommendations and advice solely

to the Board for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees, task forces, or working groups

have no authority to make decisions and recommendations, verbally or in writing, on behalf of

the Board. No subcommittee or any of its members can update or report, verbally or in writing,

directly to the DoD or any Federal officers or employees. The Board's DFO, pursuant to DoD

policy, must be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD employee, and must be in attendance for

the duration of each and every Board/subcommittee meeting. The public or interested

organizations may submit written statements to the Board membership about the Board's mission

and functions. Such statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda

of planned Board meetings. All written statements must be submitted to the Board's DFO who

will ensure the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration.

Dated: August 30, 2017.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,

Department of Defense.

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